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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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IN RE APPLICATION OF: **YUHPYNG L. CHEN** :

APPLICATION SERIAL NO.: **08/764,110** : Examiner: **Berch, M.**

FILING DATE: **December 6, 1996** : Group Art Unit: **1611**

TITLE: **SUBSTITUTED HETEROCYCLIC
DERIVATIVES** :

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Amendment is submitted in response to the April 10, 2000 Office Action issued by the United States Patent Office in connection with the above-identified Continued Prosecution Application (CPA). In the April 10, 2000 Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the amendments filed in applicant's Amendment dated August 26, 1999 in connection with the parent application to the above-identified application were not entered. The Examiner apparently based the rejections maintained in the April 10, 2000 on the claims as they stood prior to applicant's unentered August 26, 1999 amendments and did not consider the remarks made in the August 26, 1999 Amendment. In the April 10, 2000 Office Action, the Examiner repeated the same rejections made prior to applicant's August 26, 1999 Amendment and indicated that the April 10, 2000 Office Action was made final. Accordingly, applicant is filing in response to the April 10, 2000 Office Action a request for the subject CPA, to ensure consideration of remarks and amendments made herein in response to the April 10, 2000 Office Action.

The time period for responding to the April 10, 2000 Office Action was set to expire three months therefrom, i.e. by July 10, 2000. Applicant is filing herewith a Petition for a three month extension of time for responding to the April 10, 2000 Office Action. Therefore, the request for this CPA, including this Preliminary Amendment, is being timely filed.

Please amend the above-indicated application as follows:

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL162815003US